Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

Ag84Pro
Cop 2

CORN

NEEDED for DEFENSE

1951

United States
Department of Agriculture
Production and Marketing
Administration

PA-151

MORE CORN NEEDED IN 1951

Despite a large corn crop last year, there is need for increased production this year.

Reserve Corn Stocks Shrinking

The increasing number of livestock, resulting from the high demand for meat, brought about by the national emergency, is forcing us to draw heavily on our reserve corn supply. It is estimated that our stocks of corn on October 1, 1951, will be at least a third less than last October. This means that we will feed and otherwise use more corn than we produced last year. The reduced reserve of our major feed grain will not be large enough if production drops sharply this year.

90 Million Acres Needed

For this reason the acreage guide for corn in 1951 is 90 million acres. Last year 84 million acres were planted to corn. That means an increase of 6 million acres over 1950. The major corn States will have to increase their acreage more than this because increased cotton acreage will result in a decreased corn acreage in the South. For this reason the 1951 guide calls for 60 million acres of corn in the commercial corn area, compared with 52.7 million acres in 1950, or an increase of 12 percent.

Decreases in Less-Needed Crops

To meet the increased corn acreage in the Corn Belt and to maintain the 1950 soybean acreage it will be necessary for farmers to shift approximately 7.3 million acres from oats, hay, pasture, and other crops to corn. This, with average yields, will still leave us with less corn than we need and may force still further drains on our carry-over supply. The remaining pasture and hay land, therefore, will require special attention; and added emphasis should be put on good management practices to get maximum forage production per acre.

The increases needed in the main corn-producing States are:

Corn

State	Acreage Planted in 1949	Acreage Planted in 1950	Acreage Needed in 1951	Percentage 1951 is of 1950
	1,000 acres	*1,000 acres*	*1,000 acres*	*Percent*
Ohio	3,627	3,384	3,700	109
Indiana	4,818	4,345	4,820	111
Illinois	9,280	8,300	9,300	112
Michigan	1,798	1,690	1,820	108
Wisconsin	2,621	2,595	2,700	104
Minnesota	5,682	5,152	5,700	111
Iowa	11,493	9,905	11,500	116
Missouri	4,396	4,200	4,500	107
South Dakota	4,101	3,855	4,200	106
Nebraska	7,438	6,843	7,950	116
Kansas	2,598	2,676	3,000	112
Total	57,852	52,945	59,190	117

Get the Greatest Yield Per Acre

It is not expected that each farm can increase corn acreage by the same percentage, but that each farmer should make as much increase as possible on good corn land, consistent with conservation and with his general farming operations. However, every farmer should strive to improve his corn-growing practices in order to get the highest possible yield from the acreage planted.

Good quality hybrid seed of the right variety, properly treated, planted in a good seed bed, with the right amount of the right kind of fertilizer will start a crop on the way to the best possible yields per acre.

Each corn grower also should adopt storage and feeding practices that will result in the largest gains from the feed available.

Price Supported at $1.54

The minimum average price support for corn produced in 1951 will be $1.54 per bushel. If the parity price on corn should be higher on October 1, 1951, the support price will be increased to reflect 90 percent of parity at that time. The price support program will be carried out through loans and purchase agreements.

Keep Up the Land for the Long Pull

The present high demand for livestock products may last a long time. It is therefore important that efforts to increase acreages of needed crops this year be accompanied by good farm management and soil- and water-conservation practices—practices that enable each farm to produce as much and more next year and the years to follow. Information on locally recommended practices and the assistance provided for such practices are available at county PMA committee offices.

Produce what is needed in 1951 and keep the land in shape for the long pull.

WE MAY NEED MORE NEXT YEAR

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
APR 6 1951
CURRENT SERIAL RECORD